UNCLASSIFIED 12/1/17 OUTGOING

Department of State TELEGRAM

AK310

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ORIGIN ARA-15

INFO OCT-00 ADS-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10
NSAE-00 PA-02 ICA-15 SP-02 SS-15 NSC-05 L-03
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DRAFTED BY ARA/ECA: MMADAMS, JR. : MAS
APPROVED BY ARA/ECA: CWRUSER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

UNCLAS STATE 256939

E. O. 12065: N/A

TAGS: AR

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE

1. FOLLOWING WAS PREPARED IN ANSWER TO QUESTIONS TAKEN AT PRESS BRIEFING SEPTEMBER 26:

Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENT ON JACOBO TIMERMAN'S RELEASE FROM HOUSE ARREST AND EXPULSION FROM ARGENTINA?

A. AS YOU KNOW, MR. TIMERMAN'S CASE HAS BEEN THE SUBJECT OF CONSIDERABLE INTEREST AND CONCERN IN THIS COUNTRY. WE AREPLEASED THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF ARGENTINA HAS RELEASED MR. TIMERMAN AND HAS ALLOWED HIM TO JOIN HIS FAMILY IN ISRAEL.

Q. DO YOU KNOW WHY MR. TIMERMAN WAS RELEASED AT THIS TIME?

A. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE ARGENTINE SUPREME COURT RECENTLY FOUND IN MR. TIMERMAN'S FAVOR WHEN HIS CASE WAS TAKEN BEFORE IT. WE ASSUME THAT HIS RELEASE WAS A RESULT OF THE ACTIONS OF THE COURT. IF SO, THE FUNCTIONING

OF THE ARGENTINE JUDICIARY NOW IN THIS CASE MAY BE A POSITIVE SIGNAL FOR THE FUTURE. AT THE SAME TIME, IS TO BE REGRETTED THAT HE HAD TO ENDURE PRISON AND DETENTION FOR TWO AND ONE-HALF YEARS.

Q. HOW DOES THE RELEASE OF TIMERMAN AFFECT THE U. S. POLICY TOWARD ARGENTINA?

A. THE RELEASE OF TIMERMAN IS A POSITIVE ACTION. AT THE SAME TIME, WE CONTINUE TO BE CONCERNED ABOUT THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN ARGENTINA, SUCH AS THE REMAINING POLITICAL PRISONERS AND THE THOUSANDS WHO HAVE DISAPPEARED. VANCE

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director
(✓) Release () Excise () Deny
Exemption(s): _____
Declassify: () In Part () In Full
() Classify as __ () Extend as __ () Downgrade to __
Date _____ Declassify on _____ Reason ____

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